

Message Text

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PAGE 01 OTTAWA 00631 241825Z

44

ACTION AGR-08

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FM AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5717

C O N F I D E N T I A L OTTAWA 0631

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EAGR, CA

SUBJECT: IMPORTS OF EXOTIC BREEDS FROM CANADA

PASS AGRICULTURE FAS JSTARKEY

REF: (A) OTTAWA 0466; (B) STATE 037089

1. WITH RESPECT TO OFFICIAL RECOGNITION OF CATTLE BREEDS QUALIFIED FOR FREE DUTY ENTRY UNDER TSUS 100.01, I CAN RECOGNIZE THAT THIS DECISION IS CLEARLY TECHNICAL IN NATURE AND, UNDER NORMAL CIRCUMSTANCES, THE ANNOUNCEMENT WOULD BE ROUTINE.

2. IN TERMS OF U.S./CANADIAN TRADE IN LIVESTOCK, HOWEVER CONDITIONS ARE NOT NORMAL. TECHNICAL AND TRADE POLICY ISSUES INVOLVING EXOTIC BREEDS MAY APPEAR TO SOME AS SEPARATE ISSUES BUT MINAG WHELAN HAS PRESENTED THE OPPOSITE PICURE IN CANADA. AGAIN, LAST WEEK IN THE HOUSE OF COMMONS, MINISTER WHELAN, IN RESPONSE TO A QUESTION FROM BERT HARGRAVE, PROMINENT MP FROM MEDICINE HAT QUATE: MR. SPEAKER, I CAN SAY THAT WHILE I WAS IN MEXICO I DID TALK TO ONE OF THE UNDERSECRETARIES, NR, LONG, WHO DEALS DIRECTLY WITH THESE PROBLEMS. I AM NOT SAYING I MADE ANY GAINS AT ALL, BUT OUR OFFICIALS WERE DISCUSSING THIS MATTER WITH U.S. OFFICIALS AS LATE AS TWO WEEKS AGO. I DO NOT KNOW WHETHER ANY
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PAGE 02 OTTAWA 00631 241825Z

DISCUSSIONS TLLK PLACE IN THE PAST WEEK, BUT THERE

IS CERTAINLY NO TRADE WAR AT ALL. THERE ARE MORE
RESTRICTIONS PLACED ON OUR TRADE WITH THE UNITED STATES
THAT WE WOULD LIKE TO DISCUSS, BUT THERE IS NO TRADE
WAR AT THE PRESENT TIME, AS FAR AS I AM CONCERNED.
UNQUOTE.

3. IT IS CLEAR FROM WHELAN'S FREQUENT SPEECHES, AS
HAS BEEN REPORTED, THAT HE CONSIDERS THESE MEETINGS
BETWEEN U.S. MMQP CANADIAN TECHNICIANS AS POSITIVE
STEPS IN NEGOTIATING TRADE MATTERS. WE ARE UNAWARE
OF ANY EFFORTS BY CANADIANS TO HAVE EXOTIC BREEDS
RECOGNIZED PRIOR TO NOVEMBER 20, 1974.

4. IF A TECHNICAL DECISION IS REACHED TO RECOGNIZE
SOME OF THESE BREEDS AND ANNOUNCED INDEPENDENT OF
TRADE NEGOTIATIONS, I AM CONFIDENT THAT MISTER
WHELAN WILL USE THIS FOR POLITICAL PURPOSES FOR
WHICH HE HAS ALREADY SET THE STAGE.

5. I URGE THAT THIS MATTER BE CONSIDERED IN LIGHT
OF ABNORMAL CONDITIONS IN U.S./CANADAIN LIVESTOCK TRADE,
AND THAT NO REPEAT NO DUTY FREE CONCESSIONS ON PUREBRED
LIVESTOCK BE GRANTED UNTIL WHELAN IS PREPARED TO NORMALIZE
TRADE. I WOULD PERCEIVE NO REPEAT NO OBJECT TO
INFORMING HIM IN THIS SENSE.
PORTER

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